A-6233 (Variance Request) Mr. and Mrs. Steven Sprenger, 5501 Park Street

Construct three (3) treads that would encroach two feet, seven inches (2'-7") forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front (Park Street) building restriction line.

CHEVY CHASE VILLAGE BOARD OF MANAGERS NOVEMBER 13, 2012 MEETING

STAFF REPORT

TO:

BOARD OF MANAGERS

FROM:

ELLEN SANDS, PERMITTING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COORDINATOR

DATE:

11/7/2012

SUBJECT:

HEARING OF APPEAL CASE NO. A-6233 VARIANCE REQUEST

MR. & MRS. STEVEN SPRENGER, 5501 PARK STREET

CONSTRUCT THREE TREADS THAT WOULD ENCROACH TWO FEET, SEVEN INCHES (2'-7") FORWARD OF THE TWENTY-FIVE (25) FOOT FRONT (PARK STREET) BUILDING RESTRICTION

LINE.

NOTICE REQUIREMENTS: Abutting Owners; Public Notice

APPLICABLE CHEVY CHASE BUILDING REGULATION:

The Chevy Chase Village Code § 8-17 (c) states:

No structure or play equipment of any description shall be erected within twenty-five (25) feet of the front line of any lot.

FINDINGS REQUIRED:

1. The proposed variance is required because special conditions exist whereby the enforcement of the requirements of the Village Building Code would result in an unwarranted hardship and injustice to the owner.

2. The proposed variance will most nearly accomplish the intent and purpose of the

requirements of the Village Building Code; and

3. Except for variances from the requirements of Sections 8-22, 8-26 or Article IV of the Village Regulations, the structure authorized by the proposed variance would not violate any covenant applicable to the property.

APPLICABLE COVENANTS:

"That no structure of any description shall be erected within twenty-five (25) feet of the front line of said premises and that no stable, carriage house, shed or out-building shall be erected except on the rear of said premises."

FACTUAL AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Applicants obtained a building permit (# 6161) in June of 2012 to construct a rear addition and a new front foyer, stoop and portico.

The stoop in that application was depicted and constructed to almost align with the twenty-five (25) foot front setback line. The steps on that approved plan were depicted as descending to the side of the stoop, towards the driveway and would not encroach forward of the front building restriction line.

As part of a subsequent landscaping project for the front yard, the Applicants then submitted an application for the proposed steps constructed to the front (Park Street and north) of the recently constructed stoop, descending towards the street. These proposed steps would encroach two feet, seven inches forward of the front (Park Street) twenty-five (25) foot building restriction line and front covenant setback line. Accordingly a variance is requested.



Figure 1: View of the front stoop and portico prior to the foyer, stoop and portico addition.



Figure 2: View of the newly constructed foyer, stoop and portico.

Other features of the proposed landscape project include replacing the existing front walkway in approximately the same location as existing; constructing a new walkway which will curve from the proposed front steps to the driveway; constructing a new pair of low walls along each side of a new landing at grade at the base of the proposed steps; and widening the driveway (Case A-6234 a & b) (see plans provided by the Applicants).

Previous requests for variances from Section 8-17(c) have typically been for expansion of existing encroachments or modifications to existing steps in order to meet current Code or safety concerns which then create an encroachment. In this instance, the proposed new additional steps create a front building restriction line and covenant front setback encroachment where none existed previously.

In previous cases involving covenant setbacks, the Board has found that the covenants were not enforceable either because:

- a) the uncovered steps and stoops were constructed at the time that the covenants applicable to the property were placed, or shortly thereafter, so it was presumed that the covenant authors did not intend those protrusions to be classified as "structures" for the purposes of the covenants; or
- b) the covenant authors did not intend certain uncovered steps and stoops to be deemed "structures" for the purposes of the front covenant setback, where such uncovered steps and stoops are installed as a matter of necessity to address the change in elevation from the ground to the entrance of a house and which steps and stoops are the minimum necessary to provide reasonable access.

There are no tree protection issues regarding the construction of the front steps. Tree protection already in place would remain in place throughout the construction of the proposed front steps and front walkway.

To date there have been no letters received from abutting or confronting neighbors regarding the project.

Applicable Fees: Variance Application Fee: \$300.00

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

This case differs from precedents cited in other recent stoop and step variance requests in that the proposed additional steps would create the encroachment forward of the applicable front building restriction line and covenant front setback line. Thus there are no strictly comparable precedents for steps. Recent precedents for stoops and steps that encroach forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front building restriction line include:

In May 2005 Mr. & Mrs. Justin Bausch of 12 East Lenox Street were granted a variance to extend the uncovered steps leading to the front porch. In the Bausch case the covenants were worded to prohibit "any stable, carriage houses or shed" forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front building restriction line, rather than the more standard language prohibiting "structure[s] of any description" forward of that setback. In December of 2010, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Maruszewski of 127 Grafton Street were granted a variance to enlarge a non-conforming stoop which would encroach five feet, six inches (5'-6") forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front building restriction and covenant setback line, an additional two feet, eleven inches (2'-11") farther than the existing stoop. In December 2010, Mr. Gregory L. Dixon and Ms. Susan F. Dixon, Co-Trustees of the Gregory L. Dixon Revocable Trust and the Susan F. Dixon Revocable Trust, of 5500 Montgomery Street, were granted a variance to expand their front stoop that would extend three (3) feet forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front building restriction and covenant setback line. In January of 2011, Case A-5854, Joanne Kyros and Thomas Schaufelberger of 135 Grafton Street were granted a variance to enlarge an existing non-conforming stoop with steps and construct three (3) treads that would encroach five (5) feet forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front building restriction and covenant setback line, an additional two (2) inches farther than the existing treads. In February of 2012, Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Marino, of 11 Primrose Street, were granted a variance to relocate and construct non-conforming front steps, leading to a porch, both of which were forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front building restriction and covenant setback line. The proposed steps would encroach twelve feet, eight inches (12'-8") in front of this twenty-five (25) foot front setback line, an additional ten (10) inches beyond the existing steps. In April of 2012 Mr. & Mrs. D. Blake Bath were granted a variance to reconstruct the front steps and add an additional step leading from the front walkway to the front porch forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front building restriction and covenant setback line. In May of 2012 Dr. & Mrs. Charles Bahn of 118 Hesketh Street were granted a variance to reconstruct the front steps from the front walkway to the front porch, adding one tread, a portion of which would be located forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front building restriction and covenant setback

line. In June of 2012, Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Shuren were granted a variance to **reconstruct** steps that would extend an additional one foot, one inch (1'-1") beyond the existing steps for a maximum encroachment of six feet, eight inches (6'- 8") forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front building restriction line.

Draft Motion

I move to direct staff to draft a decision APPROVING/DENYING the variance request in case A-6233, based on the findings that ...

CHEVY CHASE VILLAGE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please take notice that the Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers will hold a public hearing on the 13th day of November, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. The hearing will be held at the Chevy Chase Village Hall at 5906 Connecticut Avenue in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

APPEAL NUMBER A-6233 MR. & MRS. STEVEN SPRENGER 5501 PARK STREET CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20815

The applicants seek a variance from the Board of Managers pursuant to Section 8-11 of the Chevy Chase Village Building Code to construct three treads that would encroach two feet, seven inches (2'-7") forward of the twenty-five (25) foot front (Park Street) building restriction line.

The Chevy Chase Village Code § 8-17 (c) states:

No structure or play equipment of any description shall be erected within twenty-five (25) feet of the front line of any lot.

Additional information regarding this appeal may be obtained at the Chevy Chase Village Office between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, may be viewed on the Village website at www.chevychasevillagemd.gov or you may contact the office for this information to be mailed to you.

This notice was mailed to abutting and confronting property owners on the 1st day of November, 2012.

Chevy Chase Village Office 5906 Connecticut Avenue Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815 301-654-7300

MAILING LIST FOR APPEAL A-6233

MR. AND MRS. STEVEN M. SPRENGER 5501 PARK STREET CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20815

Mr. and Mrs. Craig Van Note	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Truman
Or Current Resident	Or Current Resident
5500 Park Street	5502 Park Street
Chevy Chase, MD 20815	Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Ms. Melissa T. Skofield &	Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Dixon
Mr. Frank W. Curtis	Or Current Resident
Or Current Resident	5500 Montgomery Street
5517 Park Street	Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Chevy Chase, MD 20815	
Ms. Michelle Chua &	Mr. Carl S. Giuffrida
Mr. Yannis Halikias	Or Current Resident
Or Current Resident	5504 Montgomery Street
5502 Montgomery Street	Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Chevy Chase, MD 20815	
Ms. Sarah J. Iliffe &	Ms. Ellen D. Downing
Mr. Louie Eroglu	Or Current Resident
Or Current Resident	5515 Park Street
5607 Belmont Avenue	Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Chevy Chase, MD 20815	
Saks Fifth Avenue	
Or Current Occupant	
5555 Wisconsin Avenue	
Chevy Chase, MD 20815	

I hereby certify that a public notice was mailed to the aforementioned property owners on the 1st day of November 2012.

Ellen Sands
Permitting and Code Enforcement Coordinator
Chevy Chase Village
5906 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815



November 1, 2012

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Sprenger 5501 Park Street Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Sprenger:

Please note that your requests to construct the front steps and widen the driveway on your property, and widen the driveway in the public right-of-way abutting your property are scheduled before the Board of Managers on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

• Either you or another representative must be in attendance to present your cases. At that time, additional documents may be introduced and testimony can be provided in support of the requests.

For your convenience, enclosed please find copies of the Public Hearing Notices and mailing lists. Please contact the Village office in advance if you are unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Ellen Sands

Permitting and Code Enforcement

Chevy Chase Village

Enclosures

www.chevychasevillagemd.gov

Chevy Chase Village Application for a Variance

A variance is permission granted to a landowner to depart from the specific requirements of the Village zoning ordinance and allows a landowner to use land differently than specified in the ordinance. The variance is a written authorization from the Board of Managers permitting construction in a manner not otherwise allowed by the Village Code.

Subject Property: 5501 PARIC ST.	
Describe the Proposed Project:	
CONSTRUCT NEW PRONT STEPS - SEE ATTACHED	
Applicant Name(s) (List all property owners): Chevic ~ Steve Sprenger	
Daytime telephone: Cell: 301-928-4695	
E-mail: Cheriem sprenger a gmail . com	
Address (if different from property address):	
For Village staff use:	
Date this form received: $10/22/12$ Variance No: $A-6133$	
Filing Requirements:	
Application will not be accepted or reviewed until the application is complete	
Completed Chevy Chase Village Application for a Variance (this form)	
Completed Chevy Chase Village Building Permit Application A boundary survey or plat diagram with a margin of error of one tenth of a foot or less showing all existing	
A boundary survey or plat diagram with a margin of error of one tenth of a foot or less showing all existin structures, projections and impervious surfaces.	
Surveys, plats, engineering reports, construction plans/specifications or other accurate drawings showing boundaries, dimensions, and area of the property, as well as the location and dimensions of all structures/fences/walls/etc., existing and proposed to be erected, and the distances of such structures/fences/walls/etc., from the nearest property lines. These drawings shall incorporate and display reference dimensions from the boundary survey or plat diagram required above.	
Copy of Covenants applicable to the property except for variances from Sections 8-22, 8-26 or Article of Chapter 8 of the Chevy Chase Village Code.	
Variance fee (See fee schedule listed in Chapter 6 of the Village Code).	
Affidavit	
hereby certify that I have the authority to submit the foregoing application, that all owners of the property have gned below, that I have read and understand all requirements and that I or an authorized representative will appe	

at the scheduled public hearing in this matter. I hereby authorize the Village Manager, or the Manager's designee, and/or the Board of Managers to enter onto the subject property for the purposes of assessing the site in relation to this variance request. I hereby declare and affirm, under penalty of perjury, that all matters and facts set forth in the foregoing application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Applicant's Signature:

Applicant's Signature:

	equest (attach additional pages as needed). Derry (e.g., odd shape, small size, sloping topography, abuts compares to other properties in the Village:
injustice because of the special condition(s	regulations would result in an unwarranted hardship and s) described above (i.e., describe (i) the unwarranted hardship how the special conditions cause that unwarranted hardship and
In exercising its powers in connection with	nearly accomplishes the intent and purpose of the requirements Code, entitled Buildings and Building Regulations: a a variance request, the Chevy Chase Village Board of repartly, or may modify the requirement, decision or
Variance Filing Fee Per Village Code Sec. 6-2(a)(24):	Checks Payable To: Chevy Chase Village 5906 Connecticut Ave. Chevy Chase, MD 20815
\$300.00 for new construction. \$150.00 for replacing existing non- conformities. \$300.00 for fences, walls, play equipment, trees, hedges, shrubbery in the public right-of-way. Other: \$ Fee Paid: \$300.00 for fences, walls, play equipment, trees, hedges, shrubbery in the public right-of-way. Other: \$ Which # 3100	Date Paid: 10/23/12 Staff Signature: Ulu SarQ
	Approved to Issue Building Permit per Board Decision Signed by the Board Secretary on: Date:
	Signature: Village Manager

Creative . Practical . Functional

8 November 2012

Chevy Chase Village 5906 Connecticut Ave. Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

Re: Sprenger Residence Cherie & Steve Sprenger 5501 Park Street Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

Regarding the proposed driveway expansion project, and the new front walk and stair project on the Sprenger's property at 5501 Park Street, we ask that the board allow the proposed works based on the following grounds.

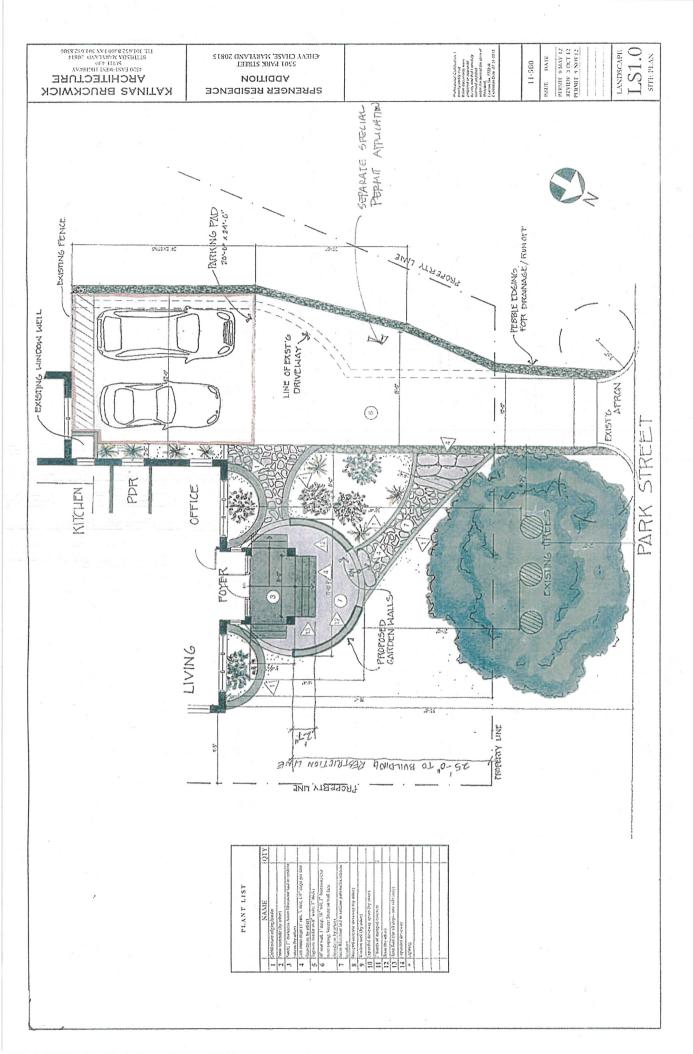
Driveway Project:

The driveway project grew from safety concerns due to the existing slope of the front yard down and into the street, and the change in grade of the existing driveway. The driveway is currently too narrow to allow one car to pull out while the other is parked without slipping off the driveway or into the other car. The existing driveway includes an 18ft. x 24ft. parking pad beginning 1ft 7in. from the house, which connects to Park Street on the side of the lot facing Belmont Avenue. We intend to shift the parking pad 5in. to increase the permeable surface between the house and driveway. There would be an additional 2ft. added to the width of the parking pad on the Belmont Avenue side to more comfortably allow two cars. As there is no garage in the back yard, or the possibility thereof, this new 20ft x 24ft. area will serve the family's two vehicles and have a much smaller overall impervious area than a typical garage in the rear layout. The connecting driveway will then taper to 15ft in width over a 20ft. length, and then continue to taper into the existing apron, as outlined by the example in the Village building permit application for driveways at grade. This allows for a gradual narrowing of the driveway, and creates sufficient room to safely maneuver one of the vehicles past the other to the street.

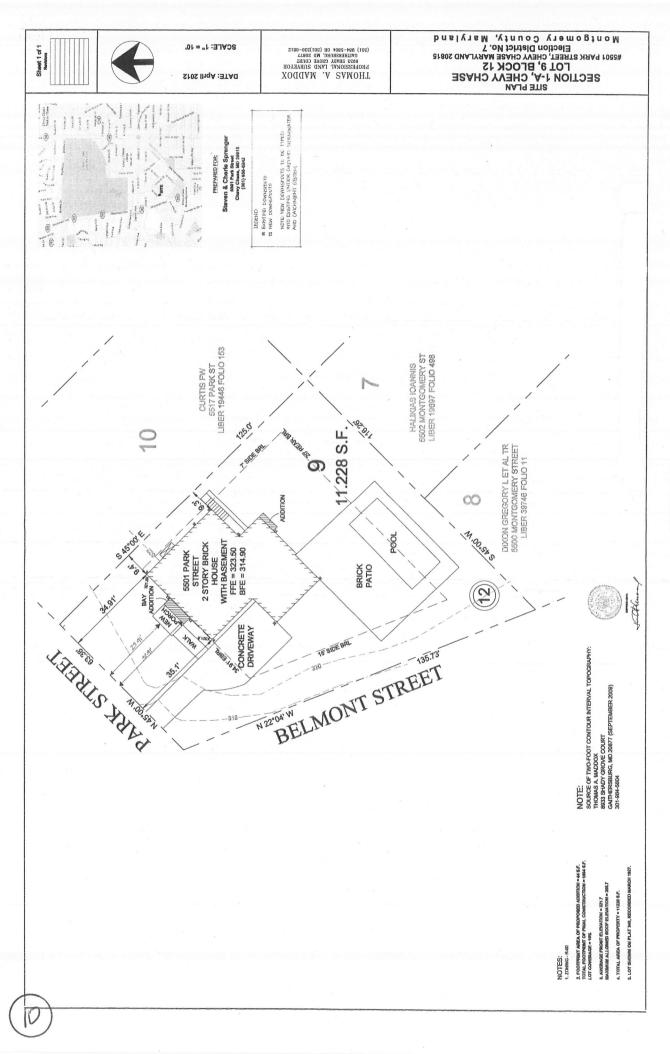
Front Yard Landscaping Project:

Front facing stairs are a traditional component of a front porch entry, and prevalent throughout the area; we feel that this feature is necessary to the design. With the recent small addition to the home, the foyer was extended 3ft to allow a total foyer depth of 7ft. This leaves a depth of 6ft. for the open front porch, which now sits at the edge of the building line. These are shallow dimensions for a foyer depth and front porch design. We believe it is reasonable to allow three stairs with a rise of 21in. total to extend over the building line. The new stairs and front walkway would connect the front porch toward the front of the house at the street, allowing for a recognizable walking entry to the house from the street, and have low-height garden walls. New planters would flank the front porch, and diminutive side stairs allow for balance and movement directly to the parking pad. A large planting between the driveway and entry will provide permeable surfaces edging the hardscapes, and lush landscaping to accentuate the formal entry. The large, existing trees will remain, to be enjoyed from the new front walk that will arch from the front porch area.





Site Plan Proposed for Variance Request (depicts steps to front and both sides)



Site Plan Approved for Permit #6161 (depicts steps to the side only)

232 improvements so insured at the cost of said mortgagors; and the exercise of cytion shall not be desired a nativer of the breach of any covenant or agreement herein contained. and surther that, should seld mortgagers, their neirs or assigns, full to gay any premtuns on such insurance, taxes, public charges, or apacial assessments, then the same 0 may be gold by the mortgages, its successors or assigns, and the amount to gold, with interpent thereon, shall be a lien on said maragaged property as though included in this mortgage in the first instance. Witness our hands and souls. Witness Johnny w. Pennybucker (Se nes filt .. . recu Juanita 5. rennybacker State of Maryiand, montpostery County, to wit: on this little day of august in the year mineteen he horsed and fortyfive, never see, Joseph L. Tikison the undersigned officer, personally appeared Johnny W. rannybucker and Juan to S. Famiyonck or known to be for satisfactority provint to be a subscribed to the within instruent and acknowledged that they the person dive made samption the so - in the Choose there's contained. In often americal, I necessity set my none and of faint sent. Joseph L. Tillson Joseph ... Ti hotary ful c hetery cubii aly coma". 3 .: earlres duy o, 194 Mulay basery County 40.17.4444 Store of antyrone, wints only county, to wit WE this ent only of dectamber in the year minetien hundred and forty-Tive, become any new A. Thougand the under dear ricer, personning appeared Frank B. Severance the drapident of the fit the buttern but with and been association of Muntipliery County, Inc., and Aurepopes, and made outh In due form of law, that the consideration mentioned in the 600 to description in true and other Pide an phorain set Fortig and his that he is the equal of soid deregance and is butherived to make this afficient. In alteres made . her eints set my hand one official sen. Les A. Thompson 0 Lor 6. 1.04 line my rubile lettury ryoule My considerable and rue May by 144.7 Aug, so For ration welling the City no an war enverton or todoponery busty new kinds release within mortgage hiteres the signature of the sud descention; to "instruction to lapporater as histo attender; and he same attented surver tarle. Met office ... centrey Frank B West B! me

September 11th, A. D. 1945 at 12:21 o'clook P. M. to wit:
This Deed, Made this 14th day of August, in the year the thousand.

nine aunared and forty-five by and between The Chevy Chase Land Company or

11

County, Maryland (a corporation duly organized under and by wirtue of the laws of the State of Maryland,) party of the first part, and Buford G. Eastham of the State of Maryland party of the second part:

Witnessett, that the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Thirty-five Thousand (\$35,000.00) Dollars to it paid by the said party of the second part, and of the covenants and agraements of the said party of the second part as hereinufter sat forth, does hereby grant end convey unto the said party of the second pert, in fee simple, the following described land and promises, with the improvements eastments, and appurtenences thereunto belonging, situate in the County of Montgomery, State of Maryland, namely:

Lots numbered Nine (9) Ten (13) Sleven (11) Twelve (12) Thirteen (13) Fourteen (14) and Fifteen (15) in Block numbered Twelve (12) and Lots numbered One (1) Two (2) Three (3) Four (4) Five (5) Six (6) Seven (7) Sight (8) Nine (9) Ten (10) Eieven (11) Twelve (12) Thirteen (13) and Fourteen (14) in B1 ok numbered fifteen (15) in the subdivision amoun as "Section One A, Chavy Chase," as per pirt of seid subdivision recorded in Plat Book, No. 4, at follo 349, one of the wand Records of Montgomery County, Maryward. Subject to a 25 foot building restriction line shown on soid recorded

witt.

6

ES N

0

(

It is hereby expressly understood and agreed by and vetween the parties hereto, thair respective successors, heirs, personal reprosentatives and assigna, that the Canarar pien of subdivision of which the land and promises hereby conveyed in a part, more_creeners and is limited to the area contained in and covered by the subdivision known as "Section One-A, Chary these," Montgomery County, Maryland, and further that no covenant, restriction or condition whether or not herein contained shall apply to, charge or effect lots in Blocks 5 and 11 of the said subdivision, and that no objection will be ruised to the resoning of said blocks δ and it, for commercial purposes-

It is hereby understood and agreed that no building shall be erroted on the land hereby conveyed unless and until the plans of the elevations, the design and color schame thereof, as well as the location of seld building on said hand small be first approved in writing by The Chevy Chase Land Company of Montgomery County, Maryland, or its successors.

In avidence of his acceptance of the aforegoing and following covenants and restrictions, for himself, his heirs and assigns, the said party herato of the account yart nes neraunto set his hand and seel.

To have and to hold the said lend and pradices, with the improvements, sus about one appurtameness, unto and to the use of the maid party of the second pare, in

In consideration of the execution of this weed, the said party of the second part, for nameself, his heirs and assigns, hereby covenants and agrees with the party of the first part, its successors end assigns, (such dovements and agreements to run with the land), as follows, viz:

i. That all howsus upon the premises hereby conveyed shall be built and used for residence purposes exclusively except stables, carriage-houses, sheds, or other facture or sales, or prisence of any kind shall be carried on or permitted upon said premises

2. That no structure of any description shall be erected within twenty five (25) feet of the front line of said premises; and that no studie, carriage house, shed, or outbuilding shall be eracted except on the rear of said premises.

In case of corner lots any and all lines bordering upon a street, avenue, or parkway shall be considered a front line.

3. That no house shall be erected on said premises us a core le

than Saventy-five Hundred (\$7,500.00) Dollars.

4. That any house erected on said premises shall be designed. for the occupancy of a single family, and no part of any house or of any structure appurtament therato shull be erected or maintained within five (5) feat of the side linus of premises hereoy conveyed, norwithin (10) ten feet of the mearest adjacent eguch.

5. That a violation of any of the aforesaid covenants and agreements may be sujoined and the same enforced at the suit of The Chevy Chase Land Company, of Montgomery County, Maryland, its successors and assigns (assigns including any person deriving title mediately or immediately from said Company to any lot or squere, or part of a lot or square in the Section of the Subdivision or which the land heraby conveyed forms a parta)

and the said party hereto of the first part nerecy covenants to warrunt specially the property hereby conveyed, and to execute such further assurances of suid land as may be requisite.

In testimouy whereof, on the day and year first hereinbefore whitten, the seld The Chevy Chase wand Company, of Montgomery County, Maryland has caused these presents to be signed with its corporate name by Edward L. Hillyer, its President attested by Williard G. McGraw, its Secretary, and its corporate seel to be hereunto arrixed, and coes nersby constitute and appoint billard G. McGraw its true and lawful attorney-in-rest for it and in its name, place and stead to acknowledge these presents as its act and deed before any person or officer duty authorized to take such acknowledgment, and to deliver the same as such.

Attest:

Secretury

Willard G. AcGraw

The Chevy Chase Land Co.

or Montgomery Co.

Maryland

The Chesy Chase Land Company of Montgomery County, Maryland,

By: Edward L. Hillyer President

Buford G. Sesthem

(Internal Revenue \$38.50)

(State Tux \$35.00)

District of Columbia, to wit:

I, Frank 1. Greenwalt a Notary rublic in and for the said District of Columbia, do Pereby certify that on this 14th day of August, 1945, William C. McGraw who is personally well-known to me to be the person numed as attorney-in-fact in the For spoing and unnexed been, duted the 14th day of August, 1945, to acknowledge the same, parachally مرده aured before as in the said District of Columbia, and as Attornsy-in-fact as aforesaid, and by virtue of the power and authority in him vested by the aforesuid Leed, acknowledged the same to de the act and deed of the said The Chevy Chase Land Company, of Montgomery County, Maryland, and delivered the same as such.

Given under my hand end seal this 14th day of August, A. L. 1945.

Frank I. Greenwalt Notary Public, D. C.

Frank I. Gr. enwalt

Notury Public

Listrict of

Columb! a